

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
PROGRAMS, GRANTS & SERVICES COMMITTEE**

June 5, 2014

Arts Commission Office, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Nancy Stewart, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Linda Levell, Nancy Stewart

Members via teleconference: Al Rent, Micah Smith

Members absent: Pam Hicks, Allen Platt, Trevor Yager

Arts Commission staff present: Bridget Eckert (intern), Dennis Hardin, Becca Hopson, Lewis Ricci, Paige Sharp

Note: Due to lack of quorum, no actions were taken during this meeting.

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Commissioner Nancy Stewart opened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda.** No action taken. The minutes from the March 21, 2014 meeting of the Programs, Grants & Services Committee will be presented for approval at a special meeting to be convened prior to the Quarterly Business meeting on June 20, 2014.

3. **Recommended Grants for FY 2015.** Arts Commission Executive Director Lewis Ricci presented handouts (attached) detailing the FY 2015 grant approval recommendations for : a) AOS-III Multi-Regional Grants and Traditional Arts Indiana; b) Individual Artist Program; c) Regional Initiative Grants for all regions; d) Regional Arts Partnership Funding Allocation. Consensus was reached to recommend approval for all grants as presented. Formal recommendation to the full Commission will be voted upon at the special meeting of this committee on June 20. Commissioner Stewart remarked on the “wonderful” paneling process and compilation of the scores. Mr. Ricci added his thanks to staff members Becca Hopson, Paige Sharp, Michelle Anderson and Sarah Fronczek.

4. **Community Cultural Planning Consultancy Status Report.** Mr. Ricci reported that all of the approved consultancies are under way and will be concluded by the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2014.

5. **Recent and Upcoming Capacity-Building Symposia.** Mr. Ricci reported on the recent Arts Commission-sponsored symposium “Leveraging Creativity” held on May 15

– 16 at the Indiana State Museum. The event garnered over 100 attendees, and was focused on individual artists. The next scheduled symposium will be on August 8, 2014 and will focus on organizational boards, staff, and community engagement. It will be held on the campus of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. A future symposium is in the planning stages, to be held in Munster, Indiana with the cooperation of the Michigan Council on the Arts and Culture.

6. Cultural Districts Update. Mr. Ricci reported that there were no applications for Statewide Cultural Districts during the current fiscal year, but applications will be invited during FY 2015. Paige Sharp of the Arts Commission staff is currently the program manager. All five of the current designated cultural districts will be hosted in Nashville in conjunction with the September meeting of the full Commission. All five of the current districts are in negotiations with sculptor Will Galloway for delivery and installation of his commemorative sculptures in each of the districts. Three of the designated districts (Bloomington, Columbus, Nashville) are working on a cooperative effort to enhance awareness and usage of the State Road 46 corridor which connects the three towns.

7. Proposed Bicentennial Programs Update. Mr. Ricci reported on recent meetings with the Bicentennial Commission, which has approved in principle all four of the Arts Commission proposals for participation in the bicentennial celebrations. The proposals include: a) branding project grants as “bicentennial” events; this will require no additional funding beyond the expected normal grant pool; b) branding the 2015 – 2016 Governor’s Arts Awards as the Bicentennial Awards; this may include some funding from the Bicentennial Commission’s funding portfolio; c) “Bringing Back the Arts to Our State Parks” which will provide arts programs and services to the 32 state parks and four state forests; this will likely require earmarked funding from the legislature; d) “Indiana Masterpiece” grants that showcase the state’s art history and arts history makers; this will also likely require earmarked funding from the legislature. Handouts attached.

8. Arts Education Program in Development. Mr. Ricci updated the committee on plans to embark on a partnership with the Indiana Department of Education to develop a program designed to help under-performing schools succeed, utilizing the arts as a catalyst for change. The program will seek to identify at least one such school in each of the Regions, and will entail training, parent and community involvement, artist partnerships, strategic planning and outcomes monitoring.

9. Research Update. Mr. Ricci reported that the Arts Commission’s Governor’s Intern Bridget Eckert is working on a project to glean data from a survey taken from all of this year’s grant review panelists and other focus groups, in an effort to improve the grant application and review process. Mr. Ricci also reported that Professor Bob Sabol from Purdue University will make a presentation at the June 20 meeting of the full Commission, with information from his in-depth research of the Crawfordsville school system and the impact of arts education on graduation rates and other successes in life.

10. Old Business. There was no old business.

11. **New Business.** Commissioner Al Rent from Muncie reported on an arts-related fundraising project for the 50th anniversary of Emmons Auditorium at Ball State University. It involves creation of 15 artistic interpretations of the violin, which will be displayed and later auctioned. Everyone on the committee was very enthusiastic about the project and is eager to see pictures of the finished models.

Executive Assistant Dennis Hardin announced that the next regularly-scheduled meeting of the Programs, Grants & Services Committee will occur one week earlier than originally planned. The date of the meeting has been changed from September 4 to August 28. The date of the fall meeting of the full Commission will also be changed from September 19 to September 12, to accommodate attendance at the Arts Midwest annual conference.

12. **Adjourn.** Commissioner Stewart thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting at 2:50 p.m.